

What is claimed is:

1. A method of managing patient referrals, comprising:  
providing a web site accessible to a plurality of health care  
providers;  
receiving through the web site, a plurality of health care  
provider registrations each associated with a health  
care provider;  
receiving a request for a patient consultation from a first  
health care provider to be performed by a second health  
care provider, both the first health care provider and  
the second health care provider having a health care  
provider registration; and  
notifying the second health care provider of the request for  
a patient consultation.
2. The method of claim 1 further comprising receiving a  
response from the second health care provider accepting or  
declining the request for a patient consultation.
3. The method of claim 2 further comprising scheduling a  
time for the patient consultation.
4. The method of claim 1 further comprising receiving a peer  
rating from the first health care provider of the second  
health care provider.

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5. The method of claim 4 wherein the peer rating is anonymous.
  6. The method of claim 4 wherein the peer rating is attributed to the first health care provider.
  7. The method of claim 4 further comprising providing the peer rating to the second health care provider.
  8. The method of claim 1 further comprising providing a health care provider profile associated with a health care provider registration.
  9. The method of claim 1 wherein the request for patient consultation includes patient demographic data.
  10. The method of claim 1 wherein the request for patient consultation includes insurance information.
  11. The method of claim 1 wherein the request for patient consultation includes patient contact information.
  12. The method of claim 1 wherein the request for patient consultation includes appointment preference information.
  13. The method of claim 1 further comprising providing information concerning the request for patient consultation to an insurer.

14. The method of claim 13 further comprising receiving notification of approval or denial from the insurer.

15. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of notifying is notifying via email.

16. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of notifying is notifying via fax.

17. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of notifying is notifying via paging.

18. A system for managing patient referrals, comprising:  
a web site accessible to a plurality of health care providers;

at least one registration web page within the web site to allow each of the plurality of health care providers to register to become registered health care providers;  
an inbox within the web site associated with at least one of the registered health care providers and containing at least one request for a patient consult made to the at least one of the registered health care providers; and  
an outbox within the web site associated with the at least one of the registered health care providers and containing at least one request for a patient consult made by the at least one of the registered health care providers.

19. The system of claim 18 further comprising a peer review component for providing feedback related to a patient consult by a consulting health care provider from a referring health care provider.

20. The system of claim 18 wherein the at least one registration web page includes a physician registration web page.

21. The system of claim 18 wherein the at least one registration web page includes a clinic registration web page.

22. The system of claim 18 wherein the at least one registration web page includes a department registration web page.

23. The system of claim 18 further comprising a patient registration web page.

24. The system of claim 18 further comprising a mode of communication preference set by a referring health care provider and provided to a consulting health care provider.

25. A method of managing patient referrals, comprising:  
providing a web site accessible to a plurality of health care  
providers, the plurality of health care providers  
including a referring physician and a consulting  
physician;  
receiving a request on the web site from the referring  
physician for a patient consultation to be performed by  
the consulting physician on a patient; and  
notifying the consulting physician of the request for a  
patient consultation.

26. The method of claim 25 further comprising requesting an  
authorization number for the patient consultation from an  
insurer providing insurance to the patient.

27. The method of claim 25 wherein the step of notifying the  
consulting physician is notifying the consulting physician  
according to a preferred mode of communications setting set  
by the consulting physician on the web site.